

Meeting with the United Egg Producers
Thursday, May 18, 2017
9:15am – Administrator's Office
Staffing: Sarah

United Egg Producers is a co-op of egg farmers that represents approximately 90% of all the nation's egg producers.

This meeting came out of an invitation for you to be their keynote speaker at their annual legislative meeting, where they will be speaking with their elected officials about developments in the industry and legislative/regulatory issues. They have asked to discuss WOTUS, so I have listed where we are in that process. I also found a joint project that EPA and United Egg Producers have initiated. Info below and attached.

You will be meeting with 7 of their Execs:

1. Steve George – Iowa Egg Producer, Fremont Farms, UEP Board Member and Chair of UEP's Environment Committee
2. Ron Truex – Indiana Egg Producer, Creighton Brothers Farms, and Chairman of the UEP Board
3. Glenn Hickman – Arizona Egg Producer, Hickman Family Farms, and UEP Board Member
4. Joe Miller – Staff, Rose Acre Farms
5. Chad Gregory – President, UEP
6. David Inall – Senior Vice President and Environment Committee Staff Lead, UEP
7. Tom Hebert – UEP Consultant

WOTUS

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Office of the
Administrator
(Mail Code 1802)

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Project XL: United Egg Producers



WHAT IS



PROJECT XL?

Project XL, which stands for "eXcellence and Leadership," is a national initiative that tests innovative ways of achieving better and more cost-effective public health and environmental protection. The information and lessons learned from Project XL are being used to assist the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in redesigning its current regulatory and policy-setting approaches. Project XL encourages testing of cleaner, cheaper, and smarter ways to attain environmental results superior to those achieved under current regulations and policies, in conjunction with greater accountability to stakeholders. It is vital that each project tests new ideas with the potential for wide application and broad environmental benefits. As of October 2000, over forty pilot experiments are being implemented and several additional projects are in various stages of development.

SUMMARY OF THE UNITED EGG PRODUCERS PROJECT

Through this XL project, the United Egg Producers (UEP), a farmer cooperative that represents egg producers nationwide, has entered into an agreement with EPA to provide a comprehensive program to help participating egg-producing facilities achieve superior environmental performance by implementing an environmental management system (EMS) and complying with the terms of a general permit issued by individual states or EPA. This more comprehensive approach will require participating facilities to comply not only with the terms of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit, but also to implement a multi-media EMS that controls a range of significant environmental impacts, including those not subject to regulation under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The project also includes a third-party auditing component and on-farm management practices most likely to result in superior environmental performance. Each facility's EMS will be required to pass the independent third-party audit before the facility can apply for coverage under a general permit. Information on audit results will be provided to the appropriate regulatory authorities and will be available to local stakeholders. Ongoing audits will be conducted to ensure continuing implementation of the EMS, and audit results will be available to the public. This XL project, EPA's 48th, was signed on October 25, 2000.

SUPERIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

This innovative project is expected to achieve superior environmental results, because egg producers will be subject to an innovative, comprehensive program. This project will bring egg-producing facilities under NPDES permits faster and help assure continuing compliance and superior environmental performance through the implementation of EMSs. UEP also will help organize a third-party manure user program designed to help recipients of manure understand how to develop nutrient management plans and use manure from Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) properly.